



The New England Private Well Initiative

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The health and livelihood of New Englanders depends on the availability of a safe drinking water supply. More than 20% of New Englanders depend on private wells as their source of drinking water. This water source is not regulated to the extent that public sources are, making private well owners responsible for the quality of their drinking water. Private well owners need to be aware of potential contamination risks to their wells and how to protect against these risks. Changing property laws and regulations have created an increased demand for well water testing and information regarding testing and protection.

New England Private Well Initiative Members

- ❖ New England Regional Water Program
- ❖ US EPA, New England
- ❖ State Departments of Health
- ❖ State Departments of Environmental Protection
- ❖ RCAP Solutions
- ❖ Water Systems Council
- ❖ American Groundwater Trust
- ❖ Dartmouth Toxic Motel Research Program

Output Activities

- ❖ 2005 & 2007 New England Private Well Water Symposia
- ❖ Residential Private Well Protection Workshops and Displays
- ❖ Printed Materials – factsheets, brochures, youth educational materials
- ❖ Development of an Interactive Website to Educate Public on Private Well Protection and Source Water Management



www.healthyhome.uconn.edu

- ☑ Interactive Website:
www.healthyhome.uconn.edu

Target Audiences

- ❖ Private well owners
- ❖ Realtors
- ❖ Professional sector well drillers and pump installers
- ❖ Volunteers: local Boards of Health; Master Gardeners



- ☑ Groundwater / Well poster



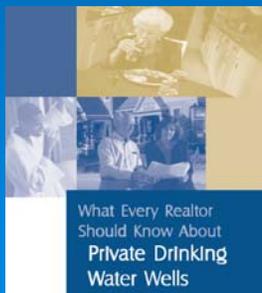
- ☑ Private Well Display



- ☑ Private Well Protection Workshops



- ☑ Healthy Drinking Water fact sheets adapted for each New England State



- ☑ New England Realtor Brochure

Focus Area Impacts and Accomplishments

- ❖ Private well owners are testing the water quality of their drinking water and are adopting practices to protect their private well water supplies.
- ❖ A regional multi-agency integrated research, and Extension symposia on private well protection.
- ❖ Materials have been developed to support regional educational efforts.
- ❖ A needs assessment has been conducted with southern New England realtors to determine knowledge, actions, and potential outreach methods to realtor audience.



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